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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Applicant: STOUGHTON *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/038,894

Filed: March 11, 1998

For: *METHODS OF DIAGNOSIS AND TRIAGE
USING CELL ACTIVATION MEASURES*

Art Unit: 1651

Examiner: Meller, M.

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I hereby certify that this paper and the attached papers are being deposited with the United States Postal "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated above and addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, BOX CPA, Washington, D.C. 20231

Debra Walker

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FILED IN CONNECTION WITH A CONTINUED
PROSECUTION DIVISIONAL APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action, mailed January 30, 2001, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 19-24 without prejudice or disclaimer. Please add claims 41 and 42 as follows:

41. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the protease inhibitor is 6-amidino-2-naphthyl p-guanidinobenzoate dimethanesulfonate or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, acid, ester and other derivatives thereof.

42. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein cell activation is assessed by assays that measure one or more of the level of free radical production, pseudopod formation, adhesion molecule expression and degranulation.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is filed in connection with filing a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) of Serial No. 09/038,894, filed March 12, 1998. This CPA, as the prior one, is intended to be a **DIVISIONAL** application. Examination of claims 10-18, 32-36, 38, 41 and 42 is respectfully requested.

A check for the fees for the filing fee for the CPA for a three month extension of time accompany this response. Any fees that may be due in